AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of rendering a multimedia signal (401; 409), the multimedia signal comprising[[:]] events (407) of a first type arranged to carry content in the form of instructions to a rendering unit[[;]] and an event (406) of a second type arranged to carry additional content (410), wherein said additional content comprises an address identifying an encoded sample of multimedia content[[;]], wherein the method comprises the following steps:

generating a multimedia output in response to the events of the first type;

parsing (602) the multimedia signal (401; 409) to identify said event (406) of the second type and to read the additional content (410);

loading (607) the encoded sample of multimedia content (402) identified by said address;

decoding (611) the encoded sample to provide a decoded sample for playback of the multimedia content; and

superimposing (609) the decoded sample on the generated multimedia output in accordance with timing information associated [[to]] with the event of the second type.

2.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1, wherein the timing information comprises a delta time value defining a time relative to a reference time.

3.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the event of the second type includes a textual information of one or more predetermined commands, the one or more commands identifying an encoded sample.

4.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 3~~ <u>claim 1</u>, wherein <u>the step of</u> superimposing ~~comprises synchronising~~ <u>includes synchronizing</u> the decoded sample with the multimedia output based on the timing information.

5.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 4~~ <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the multimedia signal and the encoded sample are ~~comprised~~ <u>included</u> in a container data item.

6.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 5~~ <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a System Exclusives event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

7.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method according to ~~any of claims 1 to 6~~ <u>claim 1</u>, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a Meta-event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

8.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method according to claim 7, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type cue-points, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 07.

9.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method according to claim 7, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type lyric, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 05.

10.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> method according to claim 7, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type text, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 01.

11.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to any of claims 1 to 10 claim 1. wherein [[an]] the address indicates a position in a first file (402; 303) associated with the multimedia signal.

12.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to any of claims 1 to 11 claim 11, wherein the multimedia signal is stored in a second file (302).

13.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to any of claims 1 to 12 claim 1, wherein the additional content comprises an indication of the type of the a type of coding scheme used for encoding the encoded samples.

14.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method according to any of claims 1 to 13 claim 1, wherein the multimedia signal complies with the general Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) specification.

15.   (Currently Amended) A unit for rendering a multimedia signal (401 ; 409), the multimedia signal comprising[[:]] events (407) of a first type which are arranged to carry content in the form of instructions to the unit[[;]], and an event (406) of a second type arranged to carry additional content, wherein said additional content comprises an address identifying an encoded sample of multimedia content[[;]], wherein the unit comprises:
        a playback unit (202) adapted to generate a multimedia output in response to the events of the first type:
        a parser (201) arranged to identify the event (406) of the second type and to read the additional content (410);
        an interface (204) arranged to load the encoded sample of multimedia content identified by said address, and to cause a decoder to decode the decoded sample for subsequent playback of the multimedia content; and
        a synchronising synchronizing unit (210) adapted to synchronise synchronize playback of the decoded sample with the generation of the multimedia output.

16. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 15, wherein the multimedia signal complies with the general Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI) specification.

17. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 15 ~~or 16~~, wherein the timing information comprises a delta time value defining a time relative to a reference time.

18. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 17~~ claim 15, wherein the event of the second type includes a textual information of one or more predetermined commands, the one or more commands identifying an encoded sample.

19. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 18~~ claim 15, wherein the multimedia signal and the encoded sample are comprised in a container data item.

20. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 19~~ claim 15, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a System Exclusives event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

21. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to ~~any one of claims 15 to 19~~ claim 15, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a Meta-event as defined in the specification of the Musical Instrument Digital Interface (MIDI).

22. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 21, wherein the event ~~(406)~~ of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type cue-points, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 07.

23.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 21, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type lyric, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 05.

24.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to claim 21, wherein the event (406) of the second type comprises a Meta-event of the type text, identified by the hexadecimal value FF 01.

25.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to any one of claims 15 to 24 claim 15, wherein an address indicates a position in a first file (402; 303) associated with the multimedia signal.

26.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to any of claims 15 to 25, claim 25 wherein the multimedia signal is stored in a second file (302).

27.   (Currently Amended) [[A]] The unit according to any one of claims 15 to 26 claim 15, wherein the additional content comprises an indication of the type of the a type of coding scheme used for encoding the encoded samples.

28.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising program code means adapted to perform the method according to any one of claims 1 through 14, when said program code means are executed on a data processing device, said computer program product rendering a multimedia signal, the multimedia signal comprising events of a first type arranged to carry content in the form of instructions to a rendering unit and an event of a second type arranged to carry additional content, wherein said additional content comprises an address identifying an encoded sample of multimedia content, wherein the program code means is adapted to:
      generate a multimedia output in response to the events of the first type;
      parse the multimedia signal to identify the event of the second type and to read the additional content;
      load the encoded sample of multimedia content identified by the address;

decode the encoded sample to provide a decoded sample for playback of the multimedia content; and

superimpose the decoded sample on the generated multimedia output in accordance with timing information associated with the event of the second type.